NYSCEF DOC. NO. 20

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INDEX NO. 031783/2019

AFFIDAVIT OF P.J.

STATE OF NEW YORK)	
	ss:s.	
COUNTY OF ROCKLAND)	

- P.J., an a person of legal age, hereby states and deposes under pains and penalties of perjury:
- 1. I am a plaintiff in this action and make this Affidavit based upon facts known to me.
- 2. My son A. is now in 7th grade. His mother and I first learned about Waldorf education while living in Japan while A. was an infant. We enrolled A. in Green Meadow Waldorf School in February 2011 after he had spent one semester in kindergarten at Sacramento Waldorf School.
- 3. For me, the Waldorf curriculum fits with my spiritual perception that I had about A. as a baby, a spirit thinly veiled by body of flesh, and growing into this world gradually. I wanted A. to be educated in a school that was built to nourish him physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. I feel that our child received a tremendously rich education and was flowering as a human being. I also love that my son thinks that it is very strange that some human beings discriminate against other human beings based on the color of their skin.
- 4. After the exclusion order was enforced in December 2018, A. was fine with being out of school for a few days. Then, he started to miss his friends. Disconnected from the majority of his classmates and seeing the rest usually once or twice a week, he began to lose his usual upbeat attitude. As days turned into weeks, our son was not doing well out of school. Since A. is an only child who goes back and forth between homes, the school is an important source of stability in his life and also as an only child just turned 13, the developmental task of bonding with his peer group is crucial and has been substantially interrupted. Through the exclusion order, A. simply was losing his joy and also not

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keeping as physically fit nor keeping his studies up as well, He began to lose interest in things.

- 5. A. also gains a lot of self-esteem as an athlete. His strong sports are basketball and baseball. He began basketball just three years ago, and was developing very well. This year he missed the entire basketball season. Every game! He feels he has been left behind due to not developing his skills. He is losing enthusiasm and evincing a sense of resignation, as is a typical symptom of excluded populations.
- 6. Faced with these changes in our son and with no end to the exclusion order in sight, A.'s mother and I finally moved him to a different school. We placed him in a Catholic school outside the county and outside the state, partly based on my concern that the County Commissioner of Health would change the vaccination rate again and up it to 97%, and he would have to change schools again. I was not satisfied with this new school, but we had to get A. back into school because he was beginning to get depressed, and we saw that he was already starting to suffer the kind of resignation that excluded groups tend to take on.
- 7. A.'s mother and I both suffered financially as we sought to figure out how to deal with the exclusion and get A. educated, whether we needed a temporary or long-terms solution, how to get him materials for studying, how to support it at home or gather with other students, etc. Focusing on these issues, I had almost no work between the middle of December, and the 8th of February, and this was a significant contributing cause.
- 8. I was unwilling to vaccinate because I do not believe that my child is designed by the universe/God to have poisonous substances, viruses and other foreign substances injected into him. There is a natural and divine order in which human beings flourish and this does not include injecting things into a human being. I have felt a sacred duty to protect my son from harm as much as possible. I do not want him to be injected with potentially harmful substances. When he was smaller, his mother caused A. to have a couple of vaccinations. But, I have since come to feel that it is

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enough, indeed, too much and completely out of the order of natural process for our lives. A. also developed a tick after the tetanus shot and has a sensitive constitution.

9. While my son is now in school, the exclusion order had a profound effect on me and my son: he is NOT attending the school of his choice and has been deprived of such attendance despite the absence of a single case of measles amongst the school's students or families. My right to choose my son's school, a right grounded in my right to parent, has been violated for no good reason.

P. J.

Signed and sworn to before me this ___ day of March 2019.

NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:

MICHAEL HOWARD SUSSMAN Notary Public, State of New York No. 02SU6332584 Qualified in Orange County Commission Expires Nov. 09, 20